funds from CAPART for the development of a fuellcss water wheel turbine invented by him;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the official of the U.P. Government as well as Central Government and technocrats sent by CAPART had appreciated this device and strongly recommended for popularisation and providing held to Shri Mangal Singh; and

(c) if so, that are the reasons for not granting him any financial help for development and commercial production of this device?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During 1990-91, Shri Mangal Singh was provided financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 91,400'- under two projects relating to fuellcss turbine. Both the projects were not completed by Shri Mangal Singh. In the first project in which Rs. 32,00O/- was sanctioned, Shri Singh could execute the project except spending Rs. 6400/ on travel, etc., and the project was treated as closed in 199S.

In the case of the second project in which Rs. 85,00fy- was released to him, Shri Mangal Singh was to refund Rs. 40,000/- to CAPART as per sanction after completion of the duration of the project, which was one year. Shri Mangal Singh neither completed the project nor did he submit the accounts. He has not refunded the amount so far.

Shri Mangal Singh has submitted another proposal for Rs. 16.86 lakhs in July, 1999 and the proposal has been got appraised. The pre-Appraisal report has been received in July, 2000 and the case will be placed before the next National Standing Committee on Rural Technology, for consideration and decision, which is the competent authority.

Panchayats Debarred to Undertake works under JRY, EAS etc.

1218. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(d) whether Government's attention has been drawn to order No. 1572/PN/0/1/IM-1/97 dated 12th April, 2000 of the Ministry of Panchayat, West Bengal;

(d) whether Government are aware that vide this order Panchayats

are debarred to undertake works under JRY, EAS etc., in tea garden areas, without prior permission of tea garden owners; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) and (c) The Government of West Bengal have intimated that Gram Panchayats having one or more tea garden areas within their territorial jurisdictions, are empowered like any other Panchayats, to prepare plan for development of the community as also socio-economic upliftment of the individual members of the community and to implement schemes in pursuance of such plans. In furtherance of its objective, they may utilise, *inter-alia*, any fund placed with them under centrally sponsored schemes like JGSY etc. However, since the tea garden land is under leasehold of its owner/management and also since it is not advisable to impair or jeopardize in any way the activities relating to production of tea, a major export commodity, the Panchayat bodies are required to obtain prior consent of the tea garden management for implementing any land-based scheme.

The State Government has also intimated that in other areas as well, the Panchayats cannot implement any development schemes on utilising any land under private ownership without the consent of the. owner. The State Government are not aware of any adverse reaction to the guidelines issued in this respect.

Drinking Water facility in Orissa

1219. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages or hamlets have no drinking water facility in the country as a whole and in Orissa in particular; and